

# Washington State Patrol Media Release

**Chief John R. Batiste**

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**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

**Date: May 9, 2006**  
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## **WSP Aircraft Assists with Capture of Eluding Suspect**

A 20 year old male was taken into custody after attempting to elude a state trooper.

The suspect had been north bound on I-5 approaching Mount Vernon. A state patrol aircraft was in the area working speed emphasis with local troopers. The aircraft clocked the suspect vehicle at over 80 mph and advised the troopers. When a trooper attempted to stop the suspect vehicle, the vehicle took off and accelerated to speeds over 100mph in an attempt to elude the trooper. The aircraft and trooper on the ground determined the pursuit was unsafe to the public and discontinued the pursuit. The aircraft continued to keep the suspect's vehicle in sight and was able to follow the vehicle as it exited into Mount Vernon. The suspect abandoned the vehicle and fled on foot. The aircraft was able to lead the troopers to the suspect's location. The suspect was apprehended and booked into the Skagit County Jail.

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